SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
OCT.
NO. 87
10c
BAT MAN
Featuring
"BATMAN FALLS in LOVE!"
STAGE DOOR
Magda
The TOAST of
TWO CONTINENTS!
BATMAN!
CAN'T YOU HEAR ME? THE POLICE COMMISSIONER IS CALLING US!
POLICE

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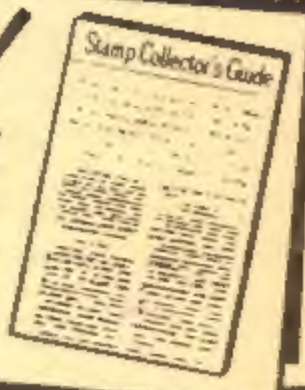

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BATMAN AND ROBIN

WHAT WOULD **BATMAN** CONSIDER TO BE HIS GREATEST MOMENT-- HIS MOST MEMORABLE ADVENTURE? WHICH OF HIS MANY AND BIZARRE CASES STANDS FORTH AS THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE? NOT EASY QUESTIONS TO ANSWER-- AND EVEN **ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER,** CANNOT GUESS WHAT NEXT WILL BE BROUGHT FORTH BY THE POPULAR TV PROGRAM, **"YOUR LIFE STORY,"** WHEN TELEVISION CAMERAS REVEAL...

"BATMAN'S GREATEST THRILLS!"

STATION GCTV PRESENTS YOUR LIFE STORY

BY BOB KANE

BATMAN, No. 87, October, 1954. Published monthly, with the exception of Jan., May, July, and Nov., by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 480 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. REENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AUG. 1, 1941 at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. $1.00 including postage. Foreign $2.00 in American funds. Entire contents copyrighted

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Printed in U.S.A.

HIGH ABOVE GOTHAM CITY, A FAMILIAR SYMBOL ILLUMINATES THE NIGHT SKY...

LOOK! THE BAT-SIGNAL!

A CALL FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WHILE IN THE MANSION OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS SIGNALING US, BRUCE!

CHECK! GUESS WE WON'T HAVE TIME FOR DESSERT, ALFRED!

OH, DEAR... WHY MUST THEY ALWAYS SEND FOR YOU AT MEALTIME?

MINUTES LATER, AFTER A RACE THROUGH THE STREETS IN THEIR FAMED BATMOBILE...

THE POLICE RADIO SAID WE'D FIND OUR CROOKS HERE, IN THE GOTHAM CITY OPERA HOUSE!

OVER A VAST, DARKENED STAGE SWING THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS, WHILE RUNNING FIGURES OPEN FIRE...

THERE THEY GO!

BANG BANG BLAM

SUDDENLY, THOUSANDS OF LIGHTS GO ON, AND...

WHAT--? A PACKED HOUSE!

HEY, WHAT IS THIS?

STATION GCTV PRESENTS YOUR LIFE STORY

SURPRISE!

I'M JOE HARDY, BATMAN--MASTER OF CEREMONIES! EVERY TIME WE DO SOMEBODY'S LIFE, WE KEEP IT A SECRET FROM HIM UNTIL HE APPEARS BEFORE THE CAMERAS! THAT'S WHY YOU WERE "LURED" HERE!

THE "CROOKS" FIRED BLANKS, OF COURSE--AND THE ENTIRE ACTION WAS PICKED UP BY OUR CAMERAS! YOU SEE, THIS WEEK WE DO YOUR LIFE STORY, BATMAN!

I'VE GOT TO PLAY ALONG LIKE IT'S A SURPRISE! ACTUALLY, I KNEW ABOUT THIS WHEN THEY PHONED BRUCE WAYNE TO APPEAR ON THE SHOW, LATER!

AND NOW... DO YOU RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE, BATMAN?

BATMAN HAS AIDED MY DEPARTMENT IN SOLVING INNUMERABLE CRIMES!

OF COURSE I RECOGNIZE IT! WHY, IT'S...

...COMMISSIONER GORDON!

HA, HA... HELLO, BATMAN!

YES, SIR--THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF GOTHAM CITY! AND NOBODY KNOWS BATMAN'S AMAZING FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AS DOES COMMISSIONER GORDON! TAKE OVER, COMMISSIONER!

PRESENTS YOUR LIFE STORY

IN THOUSANDS OF HOMES, VIEWERS FLOCK TO THEIR SETS TO WITNESS THE INSIDE STORY OF GOTHAM CITY'S MOST PROMINENT CITIZEN...

HEY, POP! THEY'RE DOING BATMAN'S STORY THIS WEEK!

I WAS GOING TO DO THE DISHES FOR MOM—BUT THEY CAN WAIT!

BATMAN'S LIFE STORY WOULD BE INCOMPLETE UNLESS WE SHOWED THE SYMBOL EVERYBODY KNOWS SO WELL! SO LET'S TAKE A LOOK OVER THE AUDIENCE!

WHAT?? I DON'T GET IT!

BAT SIGNAL

AND THERE IT IS—THE SYMBOL SO FEARED BY CRIME... THE BAT-SIGNAL, WELL PERFORMED BY OUR AUDIENCE!

AND HERE, AS A GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM CITY, A GOLDEN KEY TO THE CITY... A BAT-KEY!

I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY... EXCEPT, THANK YOU-- THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

BUT NOW, IT IS TIME FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE! RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE, BATMAN?

THE MAGAZINE FOR WHICH I WORK HAS DONE INNUMERABLE PHOTOGRAPHIC STORIES ON BATMAN'S TIRELESS FIGHT AGAINST CRIME!

VICKI VALE!

YES! BRUCE WAYNE ISN'T HERE TO SEE THIS, BATMAN-- BUT I'M SURE HE WOULDN'T MIND HIS GIRL KISSING YOU!

THAT REMINDS ME.. BRUCE IS TO APPEAR AND MEET BATMAN! THAT'S THE BIG PROBLEM WE'LL HAVE TO SOLVE TONIGHT!

CLAP CLAP CLAP

GOSH... THIS IS TOUCHING! I KNEW THEY WERE GOING TO DO MY LIFE, YES-- BUT I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS!

PRESENTS YOUR LIFE STORY

THIS IS THE FIRST COPY OFF THE PRESS OF YOUR GREATEST CASES! YOU DIDN'T KNOW SUCH A BOOK WAS EVEN PLANNED, DID YOU, BATMAN?

NO-- I DIDN'T!

BATMAN'S GREATEST CASES

AND NOW, LET'S LOOK BACK AT ONE OF YOUR CASES! DO YOU RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE?

MMMMFF-- GLPP... MMMFF!

TTT!!

WHY--THE PRISONER IN THE IRON MASK! HIS HIGHNESS, KING ZABOT OF MORBANIA!

YES--AND HIS HIGHNESS WAS FLOWN ALL THE WAY FROM MORBANIA TO BE HERE TONIGHT!

MANY PEOPLE WILL REMEMBER HOW MY EVIL HALF-BROTHER KEPT ME IMPRISONED FOR A YEAR, WITH THIS MASK LOCKED AROUND MY HEAD! IT WAS YOU, **BATMAN**, WHO SET ME FREE-- AND I HAVE KEPT THE MASK EVER SINCE!

SURE--I RECALL THAT CASE...

"ON THAT NIGHT LONG AGO, WHEN YOUR HALF-BROTHER FEARED I WOULD RESCUE YOU, HE PLANNED TO PUSH YOU INTO THE CASTLE MOAT..!

BATMAN WILL NEVER EFFECT YOUR RESCUE, MY **DEAR** BROTHER! HE SHALL HAVE TO FISH YOU FROM THE MOAT!

MMMFF-- GLPF-- MFFF!

"BUT SUDDENLY..."

WHAT IS THIS? **BATMAN**?... HERE AT THE CASTLE?

BASH

YES! AND WE'VE BROUGHT THE LOYAL GUARD!

CLANG

KRAK

"WITHIN MINUTES, WE HAD THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL..."

MY UNDYING THANKS TO YOU, **BATMAN**! MORBANIA IS SAVED!

A PERFECT PLAN-- RUINED BY THAT CAPED INTERLOPER! BAH!

AND NOW FOR ANOTHER OF YOUR MEMORABLE CASES, BATMAN! LISTEN...

I WANT MY DOLLY!

WH-- WHO'S THAT?

WAIT! SURE--NOW I REMEMBER! THE CASE OF THE STOLEN DOLL! AND YOU'RE LITTLE JANIE--A BIG GIRL NOW!

YES--JANIE IS TWO YEARS OLDER NOW! SHE LIVES WITH HER FAMILY ON THE WEST COAST--BUT THEY CAME HERE TONIGHT ESPECIALLY TO RECALL A CASE THAT STARTED SIMPLY WITH A STOLEN DOLL!

"JANIE HAD RECEIVED THIS DOLL AS A BRAND-NEW GIFT ONE DAY--BUT SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS SHE PLAYED ALONE IN HER ROOM..."

HI, LITTLE GIRL... WE'RE PLAYING COPS AND ROBBERS! WE'RE GONNA BE THE ROBBERS! YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY--YOU'LL GET THE DOLL BACK!

NO! DON'T TAKE MY DOLLY!

"AND THAT INCIDENT LAUNCHED YOU INTO ONE OF YOUR MOST BIZARRE CASES, BATMAN--THE CASE OF THE STOLEN DOLL!"

WE'LL HAVE TO SWING RIGHT INTO THE TEETH OF THEIR FIRE, ROBIN! WE CAN'T LET THEM ESCAPE ACROSS THE WATER!

BAM

BANG

POW

IT'S BATMAN AN' THE KID!

THERE IT IS...THE STOLEN DOLL!

"UPON RECOVERING THE DOLL, YOU X-RAYED IT AND VERIFIED WHAT YOU'D SUSPECTED ALL ALONG..."

"YES, THERE WAS SOMETHING HIDDEN WITHIN THE DOLL-- AND YOU DID 'OPERATE'..."

WE COULDN'T JUST BREAK THE DOLL, BECAUSE WE'D ALSO BREAK A LITTLE GIRL'S HEART! BUT THE X-RAY REVEALS WHAT'S INSIDE IT!

WE'LL HAVE TO PERFORM A TRICKY "OPERATION"!

THE RAMESIS PEARLS-- WORTH HALF A MILLION DOLLARS!

WE WERE RIGHT! THE CROOKS HAD THEM HIDDEN IN THE DOLL, AND WHEN WE WENT AFTER THEM, THEY PUT THE DOLL WITH OTHERS IN THE DEPARTMENT STORE! THEN THE GIRL'S FATHER BOUGHT IT FOR HER!

YES-- WE RETURNED THE DOLL TO JANIE IN PERFECT SHAPE! IT'S THE SAME DOLL SHE HOLDS TONIGHT!

A MEMORABLE SOUVENIR, BATMAN-- A DOLL THAT WAS THE OBJECT OF A HALF-MILLION-DOLLAR HUNT! BUT NOW...

...GUESS WHO ELSE IS WAITING BEHIND THAT CURTAIN, BATMAN!

OH, OH... MAYBE IT'S BRUCE WAYNE'S TURN TO APPEAR! I AM IN A SPOT NOW!

STATION G PRESENTS YOUR LIFE

BATMAN SAVED MY LIFE!

WHAT--? NO! IT CAN'T BE!

JOHNNY TAYLOR! BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN AUSTRALIA OPERATING A RANCH!

I WAS, BATMAN-- BUT WHEN THEY TOLD ME ABOUT THE SHOW TONIGHT, I DROPPED EVERYTHING AND FLEW RIGHT IN! NOTHING COULD'VE HELD ME BACK!

YES, JOHNNY IS THE ONLY PERSON WHOM YOU MIGHT CALL "PART BATMAN"! IN FACT, HE'S OFTEN REFERRED TO AS JOHNNY "BATMAN" TAYLOR! YOU SEE, NOT ALL OF BATMAN'S CASES INVOLVED CRIME...

"SOME OF THEM INVOLVED THE SAVING OF LIVES--LIKE THIS PARTICULAR ONE, WHICH OCCURRED ABOUT A YEAR AGO."

DO YOU THINK WE CAN LAND ON THE SHIP IN THIS STORM, BATMAN?

I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT TO DO IT THE HARD WAY!

THERE'S THE SHIP NOW! A MAN IS DYING DOWN THERE, ROBIN... HIS ONLY HOPE IS THE BLOOD PLASMA WE'RE DELIVERING!

AND EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

"WHILE ROBIN TOOK THE CONTROLS, YOU DESCENDED BY MEANS OF A ROPE LADDER, BATMAN-- A PERILOUS TASK OUT THERE IN THE DRIVING STORM -- AND SUDDENLY, YOU WERE SLAMMED AGAINST THE BULK-HEAD..."

THE PLASMA!

CRASH

"YES, THE ERRAND OF MERCY SEEMED ALL IN VAIN--AND A MAN NAMED JOHNNY TAYLOR SEEMED DOOMED..."

WHAT?? THE PLASMA WAS DESTROYED? THEN... ALL IS LOST!

NO...YOU CAN USE MY BLOOD, DOCTOR! HURRY-- MAKE THE TESTS AND LET'S GET ON WITH IT!

"AND SO, THAT NIGHT, WHILE A SHIP ROCKED VIOLENTLY ON A WRATHFUL SEA, BATMAN SNATCHED A VICTIM-TO-BE FROM THE VERY JAWS OF DEATH!"

ALL RIGHT... IT'S OVER! THE PATIENT WILL LIVE!

AND THAT PATIENT, OF COURSE, WAS JOHNNY "BATMAN" TAYLOR!

ALIVE AND KICKING-- THANKS TO BATMAN!

STATION 88 YOUR LIFE STORY

SUDDENLY, ALL ATTENTION TURNS TO A BIG TV SCREEN...

I'D KNOW THAT LAUGH ANYWHERE! THE JOKER!

HA HO HA

YES, THE ARCH-CRIMINAL OF THEM ALL! TONIGHT THE TV CAMERAS TAKE US RIGHT TO HIS PRISON CELL!

BUT IT'S REAL-LIFE FIGURES THAT CRASH THROUGH THE SCREEN AN INSTANT LATER...

HA, HA... THE MAN IN MY CELL WAS A CON, MADE UP TO LOOK LIKE ME WHILE I EFFECTED ONE OF MY INGENIOUS ESCAPES! I JUST THIS MOMENT MADE MY WAY INTO THE SCREEN--TO SUPPLY THE LAST LAUGH TO BATMAN'S LIFE STORY! HA, HA, HA!

THE JOKER! HERE--IN PERSON!

HO HA

GAS HAS BEEN PUMPED INTO THE AIR VENTS OF THE BUILDING--LAUGHING GAS! A CROWNING TOUCH TO THE JOKER'S FINAL FUNNY VICTORY OVER BATMAN!

THIS IS A SCREAM!

HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO

AND VIEWERS THROUGHOUT GOTHAM CITY STARE IN HORROR AT THE JOKER'S LATEST GRIM PRANK...

BUT THEY'RE LAUGHING--WHILE THAT CRIMINAL GOES FREE!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR HIM? HE PUMPED LAUGHING GAS INTO THE PLACE!

HA HO HA HO HA HO HA HO

HA, HA, HA, HA, HA! HO, HO, HO!

COME ON! WE'VE MADE ABSOLUTE FOOLS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN! OUR WORK IS DONE HERE! LET'S FLEE!

HA HO HA HO HA

BUT SECONDS LATER, OUTSIDE...

HUH? BUT I THOUGHT...

LET ME DO THE THINKING! AND I THINK I'LL WIPE THAT GRIN OFF YOUR FACE, JOKER!

ROBIN AND I USED A MIXTURE OF CHARCOAL AND POWDER FROM OUR UTILITY BELTS TO MPROVISE GAS MASKS! I AGREE WITH YOU, JOKER-- THIS IS A CROWNING TOUCH TO TONIGHT'S STORY... YOUR CAPTURE!

GCTV PRESENTS YOUR LIFE STORY FEATURING

AND WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE ..

YOJ CAN TAKE OVER NOW, BOYS! WE'LL TURN OFF THAT GAS AND REV.VE EVERY-BODY INSIDE!

HMM... NOTH NG SEEMS FUNNY NOW, EH, JOKER?

BAH!

LATER, WHEN ORDER RETURNS TO THE OPERA HOUSE...

A STORY ON BATMAN'S LIFE WOULD HARDLY BE COMPLETE WITHOJT INTRODUCING ON-STAGE THE MAN BEHIND THIS VO.CE!

MANY TIMES IN MY LIFE, PEOPLE HAVE SAID I WAS BATMAN!

HELLO, BATMAN

I GUESS TH.S SHOULD DISPEL THOSE THEOR ES AGAIN, MR. WAYNE!

AND THAT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ENDS TONIGHT'S SHOWING OF "YOUR LIFE STORY", IN WHICH WE FEATURED THE LIFE OF BATMAN... WITH SOME EXTRA EXCITEMENT, I MUST SAY! GOOD NIGHT!

STAT ON ECTV PRESENTS YOJR LIFE STORY

BJT WAIT! WHAT OF BATMAN AND BRUCE WAYNE APPEARING TOGETHER ON THE SAME STAGE? FOR THE ANSWER, WE MUST RETURN, SOME TIME LATER, TO THE WAYNE MANSION, WHERE...

AND HERE'S THE PART THEY D.DN'T KNOW ABOJT! THEY D.DN'T KNOW WHO WAS BEHIND BATMAN'S MASK IN THE FINAL MOMENTS!

I'LL SAY THEY D.DN'T

WHILE EVERYONE IN THE THEATER WAS UNDER INFLUENCE OF THE GAS, I HAD ALFRED, THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS OJR REAL IDENTITIES, TAKE THE ROLE OF BATMAN WHILE I BECAME BRUCE!

WE WERE GOING TO HAVE ALFRED DRESS UP LIKE BRJCE-- BJT THIS WAS EVEN BETTER! IN ALL, IT IS A NIGHT TO BE LONG REMEMBERED!

THE EN!

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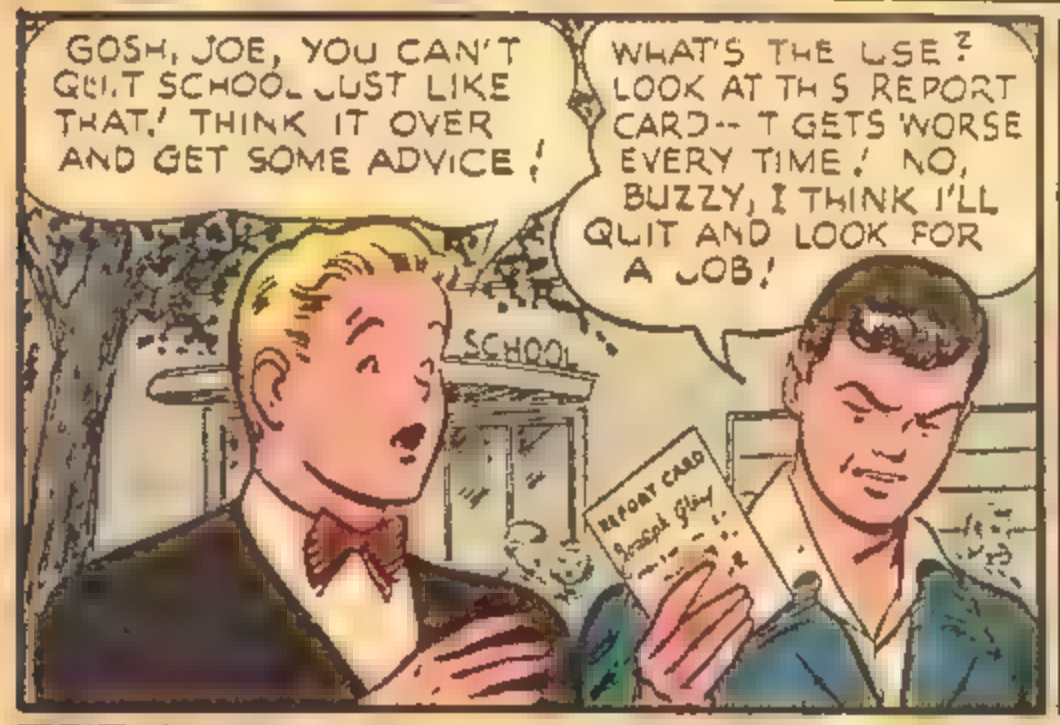
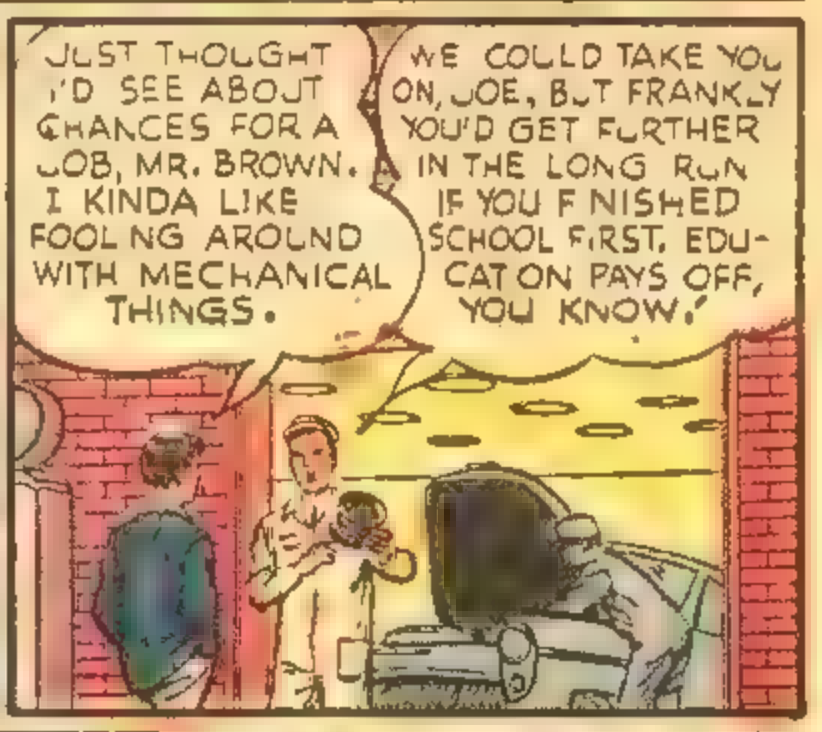
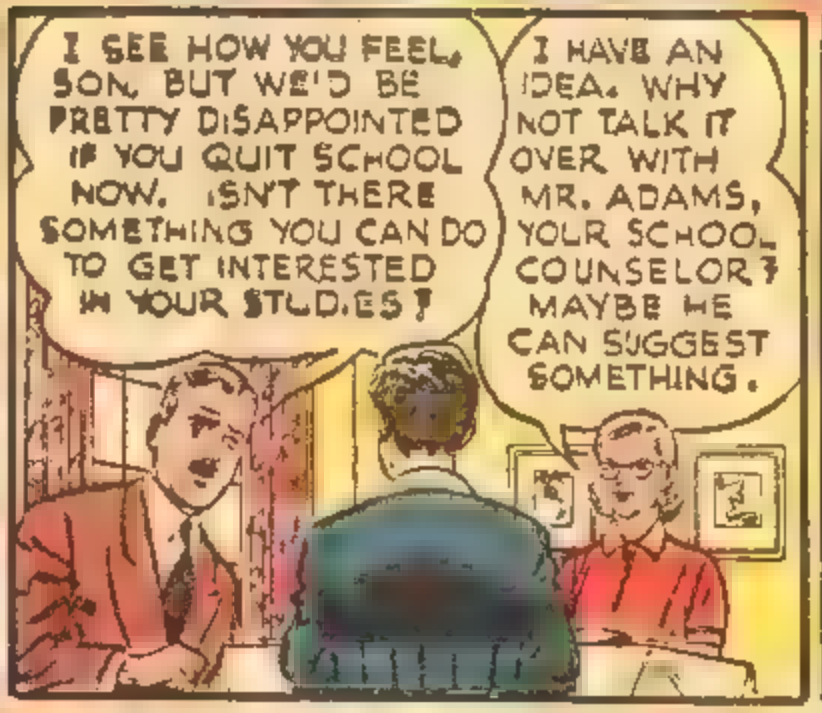
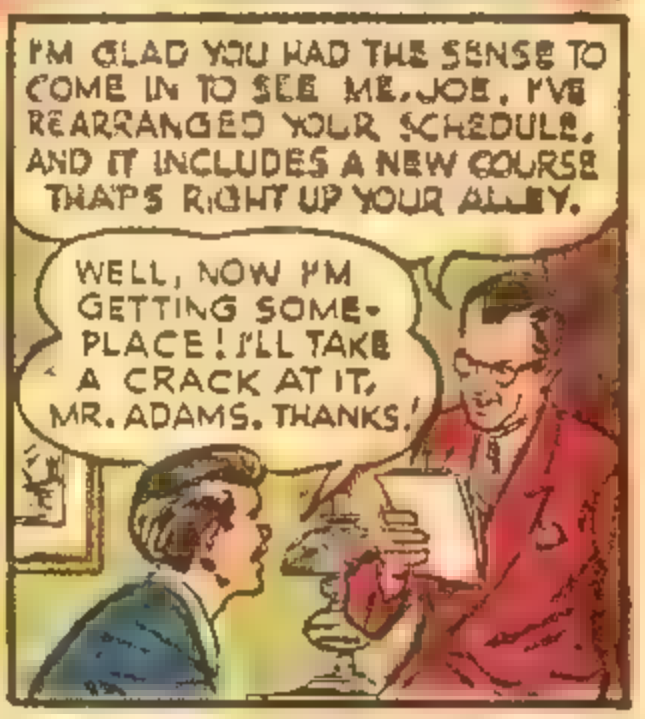
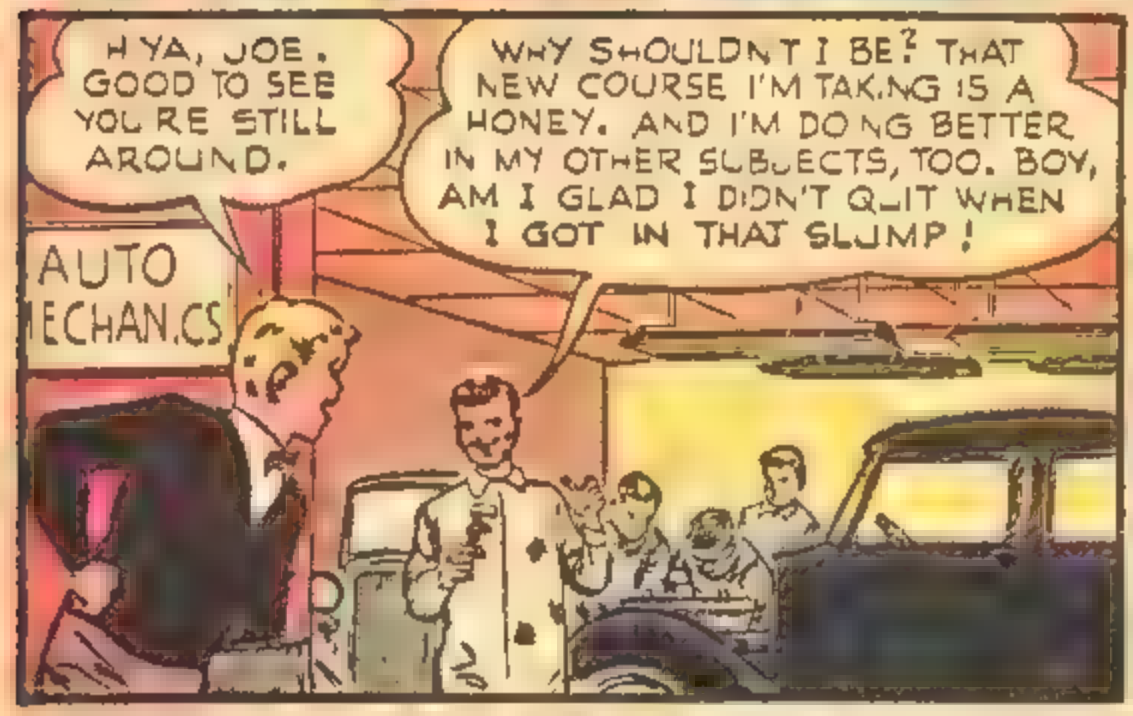
BUZZY has the answer to "SCHOOL BLUES!"

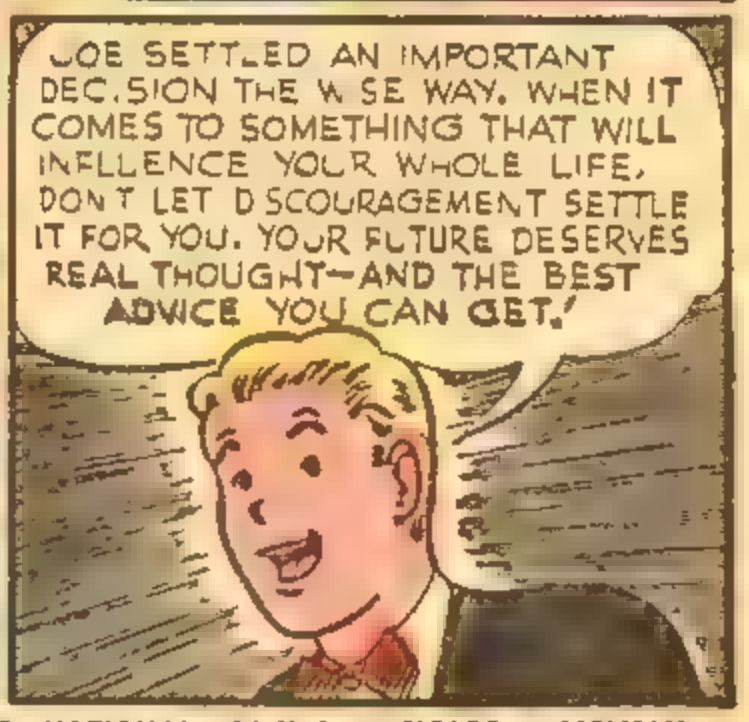

GOSH, JOE, YOU CAN'T QUIT SCHOOL JUST LIKE THAT! THINK IT OVER AND GET SOME ADVICE!
WHAT'S THE USE? LOOK AT THIS REPORT CARD -- IT GETS WORSE EVERY TIME! NO, BUZZY, I THINK I'LL QUIT AND LOOK FOR A JOB!
SCHOOL
REPORT CARD


JUST THOUGHT I'D SEE ABOUT CHANCES FOR A JOB, MR. BROWN. I KINDA LIKE FOOLING AROUND WITH MECHANICAL THINGS.
WE COULD TAKE YOU ON, JOE, BUT FRANKLY YOU'D GET FURTHER IN THE LONG RUN IF YOU FINISHED SCHOOL FIRST. EDUCATION PAYS OFF, YOU KNOW!


I SEE HOW YOU FEEL, SON, BUT WE'D BE PRETTY DISAPPOINTED IF YOU QUIT SCHOOL NOW. ISN'T THERE SOMETHING YOU CAN DO TO GET INTERESTED IN YOUR STUDIES?
I HAVE AN IDEA. WHY NOT TALK IT OVER WITH MR. ADAMS, YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR? MAYBE HE CAN SUGGEST SOMETHING.


I'M GLAD YOU HAD THE SENSE TO COME IN TO SEE ME, JOE. I'VE REARRANGED YOUR SCHEDULE, AND IT INCLUDES A NEW COURSE THAT'S RIGHT UP YOUR ALLEY.
WELL, NOW I'M GETTING SOMEPLACE! I'LL TAKE A CRACK AT IT, MR. ADAMS. THANKS!


HYA, JOE. GOOD TO SEE YOU'RE STILL AROUND.
WHY SHOULDN'T I BE? THAT NEW COURSE I'M TAKING IS A HONEY. AND I'M DOING BETTER IN MY OTHER SUBJECTS, TOO. BOY, AM I GLAD I DIDN'T QUIT WHEN I GOT IN THAT SLUMP!
AUTO MECHANICS


JOE SETTLED AN IMPORTANT DECISION THE WISE WAY. WHEN IT COMES TO SOMETHING THAT WILL INFLUENCE YOUR WHOLE LIFE, DON'T LET DISCOURAGEMENT SETTLE IT FOR YOU. YOUR FUTURE DESERVES REAL THOUGHT—AND THE BEST ADVICE YOU CAN GET.

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

CASEY THE COP

THIS MAN IS ACCUSED OF STEALING A WATCH !

I DIDN'T STEAL IT, JUDGE. I ONLY TOOK IT FOR A JOKE !

HOW FAR DID YOU TAKE IT ?

ONLY FROM HIS HOUSE TO MINE. ABOUT THREE MILES !

THAT WAS CARRYING A JOKE TOO FAR ! TEN DAYS !

END

BATMAN AND ROBIN

NO ORDINARY CRIMINAL HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO COPE SUCCESSFULLY WITH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE GREATEST DETECTIVE DUO OF ALL TIME! BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS MEET A CRIMINAL WHO IS NOT AN ORDINARY HUMAN, BUT AN **ARTIFICIAL MAN**, WITH **SUPER-HUMAN POWERS**! FOR THE DRAMATIC ANSWER, READ THE WEIRD AND THRILLING **AUTOBIOGRAPHY** OF THE STRANGEST MAN IN THE WORLD, KNOWN AS...

"The SYNTHETIC CRIME-KING!"

IT'S THAT SYNTHETIC SUPER-CROOK, USING THE BIG SOLAR MIRROR FOR CRIME! NO ONE ELSE COULD LIFT IT!

BOB KANE

"THIS IS MY STORY--AND I BEGIN IT WITH THE FIRST THING I CAN REMEMBER...A FACE LOOKING DOWN AT ME!"

WHO--WHO ARE YOU? AND WHO AM I?

I'M PROFESSOR VILMER--AND BY MY MASTERY OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, I'VE CREATED YOU FROM ARTIFICIAL TISSUES! YOU ARE A SYNTHETIC MAN!

"SO THAT THE FIRST THING I LEARNED WAS THE TERRIBLE TRUTH ABOUT MYSELF..."

YOUR LIFE HAS JUST BEGUN IN THAT MOLD! YOU ARE A NEW KIND OF MAN, SO I SHALL CALL YOU ADAM--ADAM NEWMAN! YOU ARE STRONGER AND FASTER THAN ANY ORDINARY HUMAN!

"I SOON LEARNED THAT PROFESSOR VILMER HAD NOT CREATED ME AS A MERE SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT, BUT FOR MOTIVES OF HIS OWN..."

YOU MUST DRINK THIS CHEMICAL ELIXIR EACH DAY, OR YOUR SYNTHETIC LIFE WILL FADE OUT! I ALONE KNOW HOW TO MAKE THE ELIXIR, SO YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON OBEYING MY ORDERS!

I'LL--I'LL DO WHAT YOU SAY!

"MY 'CREATOR' HAD BEEN DISCHARGED FROM A GREAT UNIVERSITY IN DISGRACE, AND MEANT TO USE ME FOR BOTH REVENGE AND PROFIT..."

I WANT THAT SHIPMENT OF SUPER-VALUABLE IRIDIUM ARRIVING AT GOTHAM UNIVERSITY TODAY--AND I'VE TOLD YOU HOW TO GET IT!

I'LL GET IT FOR YOU!

"SO I WENT FORTH TO COMMIT CRIME, NOT KNOWING IT WAS CRIME! FOR I KNEW ONLY WHAT VILMER HAD TOLD ME!"

"CAN YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR ME, A FULL-GROWN MAN, TO SEE THE WORLD FOR THE FIRST TIME?"

THAT MUST BE A TREE--BUT WHAT THAT ANIMAL IS, I DON'T KNOW! EVERYTHING IS SO STRANGE!

"AND OTHER PEOPLE--HUMAN PEOPLE--SEEMED AS STRANGE TO ME AS I SEEMED TO THEM..."

THAT FELLOW--WHY, HE RUNS FASTER THAN MY HORSE!

HOW SLOW AND WEAK ORDINARY HUMANS SEEM! THEY DON'T HAVE MY SYNTHETIC STRENGTH AND SPEED!

"THE VALUABLE IRIDIUM THE PROFESSOR HAD SENT ME FOR WAS IN A CERTAIN TRAIN EN ROUTE TO GOTHAM CITY..."

I CAN RUN AS FAST AS THE TRAIN WHEN IT SLOWS DOWN A BIT FOR THIS CURVE! ACCORDING TO MY INSTRUCTIONS, THE SHIPMENT IS INSIDE THIS EXPRESS CAR!

WITH MY MORE-THAN-HUMAN STRENGTH, I BURST OPEN THE EXPRESS-CAR DOOR!"

"I DID NOT KNOW THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN, RETURNING TO THE CITY IN THEIR BAT-PLANE, HAD SPOTTED ME! IN FACT, I HAD NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THEM!"

BATMAN! THAT FELLOW BELOW IS BREAKING INTO THE LIMITED'S EXPRESS-CAR!

TAKE THE CONTROLS AND ZOOM DOWN LOW OVER THAT TRAIN, ROBIN!

THIS MUST BE THE SAFE CONTAINING THE IRIDIUM!

"JUST THEN, TO MY UTTER ASTONISHMENT..."

WHAT IN THE WORLD..? A CROOK WHO CAN PICK UP THAT SAFE MUST BE INCREDIBLY STRONG!

CROOK? WHAT IS A CROOK? I AM ADAM NEWMAN, THE SYNTHETIC MAN! WHO ARE YOU?

I'M BATMAN, AND YOU'RE GOING WITH ME--TO JAIL!

NO... I MUST OBEY MY ORDERS!

"I-REGRETTED WHAT I HAD TO DO, BECAUSE I HAD NOTHING AGAINST BATMAN..."

HIS FACE... THERE'S A MYSTERY ABOUT THIS SYNTHETIC MAN-- DOR!

"BY THE TIME BATMAN COULD EXTRICATE HIMSELF, I HAD JUMPED FROM THE CAR AND WAS SPEEDING AWAY..."

HE NOT ONLY CARRIES THAT SAFE BUT RUNS FASTER THAN ANY ORDINARY HUMAN! ROBIN CAN PICK ME UP--BUT OUR MAN WILL ESCAPE IN THE WOODS!

"AT THE TIME, I DID NOT KNOW HOW MY FEATS OF STRENGTH AND SPEED HAD STARTLED THE TWO GREAT DETECTIVES..."

HE SAID HE WAS A SYNTHETIC MAN? HE MUST BE... NO HUMAN COULD DO SUCH THINGS!

WHEN WE FIND OUT WHAT THAT SAFE CONTAINED, MAYBE WE'LL HAVE A LEAD!

"MEANWHILE, BY THE TIME I REACHED PROFESSOR VILMER'S ISOLATED HOME..."

MY STRENGTH IS FADING--I DON'T KNOW WHY...

THIS CHEMICAL ELIXIR WILL BRING IT BACK--AS LONG AS YOU OBEY ME!

"THE SYNTHETIC ELIXIR SOON RESTORED MY STRENGTH--BUT THE MAN WHO MADE ME HAD FURTHER PLANS FOR ME..."

BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME NOW?

I'M GOING TO TAKE FURTHER REVENGE ON GOTHAM UNIVERSITY--BY USING ITS EXPERIMENTAL SOLAR-HEAT PLANT TO LOOT A NEARBY BANK!

"I WENT WITH MY 'CREATOR', AND OBEYED HIS ORDERS AGAIN

THERE'S THE UNIVERSITY'S EXPERIMENTAL SOLAR HEAT-MIRROR...TURN ITS BEAM ON THAT BANK! I'LL PUT ON MY HEAT-PROOF SUIT SO THAT I CAN ENTER THE BANK WHEN THE HEAT DRIVES EVERYONE OUT!

"AS I STARTED TOWARD THE BIG MIRROR, I DIDN'T DREAM THAT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** WERE IN AN OFFICE CLOSE BY, CHECKING ON MY LAST CRIME..."

BUT WHO WOULD **KNOW** OF THAT R DIUM SHIPMENT?

ONLY OUR SC ENTIF C FACULTY! YOU CAN QUESTION THEM ALL--EXCEPT PROFESSOR VILMER, WHOM WE D SCHARGED SOME WEEKS AGO!

VILMER? WHAT WAS HIS F ELD OF WORK, AND WHY WAS HE DISCHARGED?

HE WAS A BIOLOGIST, BUT HIS EXPERMENTS WITH FORBIDDEN DRUGS MADE US DISCHARGE HIM AND... GREAT SCOTT! LOOK OUT THERE! IT'S INCRED BLE!

"WHAT THEY SAW WAS ME, ADAM NEWMAN, USING MY MIGHTY SYNTHETIC STRENGTH!"

"BUT I CAN STAND THE HEAT, IN THIS FIRE-FIGHTING SUIT! I'LL CLEAN THE BANK OUT!

WE'RE SUFFOCATED BY THE HEAT--CAN'T STAY IN THERE!

"SECONDS LATER, I FOUND MYSELF PITTED ONCE MORE AGAINST THE ENEMY I COULD NOT HATE...**BATMAN!**"

CAN WE JUMP HIM?

NO--THAT GREAT MIRROR WOULD CRASH DOWN ON ALL OF US! I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA!

"BUT I PUT THE GREAT MIRROR DOWN TOO HASTILY--AND AS I STARTED AWAY, IT ROLLED THUNDEROUSLY AFTER ME."

QUICK, **ROBIN!** UNLESS WE KNOCK THE MIRROR OVER AND STOP IT, HE'LL BE CRUSHED TO DEATH!

TH S LAWN HAS A POWERFUL SPRINKLER SYSTEM! THE TERRIFICALLY HOT BEAM FROM THE SUN-M RROR OUGHT TO PRODUCE CLOUDS OF STEAM... AND IT D.D!

EH? THOSE STEAM CLOUDS ARE BLOTTING OUT THE SUN! I'D BETTER PUT THE MIRROR DOWN AND GO!

MADE IT!

BATMAN SPOILED EVERYTHING... WE MUST GET OUT OF HERE FAST!

BATMAN COULD HAVE LET THE MIRROR ROLL AND CRUSH ME... BUT HE DIDN'T!

"ALL THE WAY HOME, I KEPT THINKING HOW **BATMAN** SAVED ME-- BUT VILMER WAS FURIOUS..."

BATMAN MUST BE STOPPED BEFORE I CAN MAKE PROFITABLE USE OF YOU! I THINK I CAN GET HIM FOR GOOD-- AND MAKE A FORTUNE OUT OF IT, TOO!

"SOON, EVIL-LOOKING MEN CAME TO THE LABORATORY AND MY MASTER MADE THEM A TERRIBLE PROPOSITION...

YOU ALL WANT TO GET RID OF **BATMAN**, AND ONLY MY SYNTHETIC MAN CAN DO IT FOR YOU! BUT IT'LL COST YOU $100,000!

IT'S WORTH IT! WE'LL PAY YOU, VILMER, IF YOUR SYNTHETIC STOOGE BRINGS **BATMAN** TO US, DEAD OR ALIVE!

"AFTERWARDS, WHEN THE GANGSTERS DEPARTED..."

BUT **BATMAN** HAS NEVER HURT ME! I DON'T WANT TO HARM HIM!

YOU'LL OBEY MY ORDERS, OR I'LL WITHHOLD THE ELIXIR, AND YOU'LL DIE!

"THUS, AS NIGHT FELL, I WENT WITH VILMER TO DOWNTOWN **GOTHAM CITY**, ON A GRIM ERRAND..."

HERE'S WHERE YOU'LL TRAP **BATMAN**! YOUR STRENGTH WILL BE TOO MUCH FOR HIM!

I HAVE TO DO IT!-- BECAUSE WITHOUT THE ELIXIR, I'LL DIE! I WISH HE'D NEVER MADE ME!

"AND AWHILE LATER, IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE**..."

ACCORDING TO THIS BIOLOGICAL DATA, MY SUSPICION ABOUT THE SYNTHETIC MAN IS CORRECT, AND...

HOLD IT... THE **BAT-ALARM**! POLICE HEADQUARTERS WANTS US!

"MINUTES LATER, AS THEY TOOK OFF IN THEIR BATMOBILE..."

FLASH! THE STRANGE CRIMINAL WHO STRUCK TWICE TODAY HAS APPEARED ATOP THE MONARCH BUILDING!

SOUNDS AS THOUGH HE'S SHOWING HIMSELF DELIBERATELY, TO DRAW US THERE!

"AND UPON REACHING THE SKYSCRAPER ON WHICH I WAS PERCHED..."

HE LOCKED THE DOORS TO THE ROOF SO NOBODY CAN GET UP THERE TO HIM!

BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL REACH HIM! THERE THEY GO NOW!

"WITHIN SECONDS..."

WE'LL COME UP ONTO THE ROOF AT DIFFERENT PLACES, SO HE CAN'T ATTACK BOTH OF US AT ONCE!

THERE THEY ARE--CLIMBING UP THE OUTSIDE! BUT THAT WEIRD CRIMINAL LOOKS DEADLY DANGEROUS!

SO YOU CAME, BATMAN! I HOPED THAT YOU WOULD NOT!

LISTEN, ADAM.. I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING!

I CAN'T LISTEN TO YOU! I HAVE TO TAKE YOU TO MY CREATOR AND THE MEN WHO WANT YOU, DEAD OR ALIVE, OR MY OWN LIFE IS DOOMED!

LOOK! THEY'RE FIGHTING IT OUT!

AND THAT CRIMINAL SEEMS TO BE GETTING THE BETTER OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

"THEN, FOR MANY MINUTES, THE CROWDS BELOW COULD NOT SEE US-- BUT FINALLY, THEY GLIMPSED A GRIM SIGHT..."

THAT CRIMINAL-- HE STUNNED **BATMAN!** HE WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM!

HE'S GETTING AWAY WITH **BATMAN**-- SLIDING DOWN THAT GUY-WIRE CABLE!

I NEVER THOUGHT **ANYONE** WOULD CONQUER **BATMAN!**

"YES, THOSE CROWDS SAW A TERRIBLE SIGHT--"

"--BUT THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAD HAPPENED UP THERE WHEN THEY COULD NOT SEE! I HAD BEEN FORCED TO A TERRIBLE DECISION..."

NO, I CAN'T DO IT! I CAN'T HARM OTHER PEOPLE TO SAVE MYSELF! I MIGHT AS WELL THROW MYSELF OFF AND END MY WRETCHED SYNTHETIC LIFE NOW!

NO-- WAIT!

"BATMAN STRUGGLED WITH ME TO PREVENT ME FROM CARRYING OUT MY DESPERATE RESOLVE..."

LET ME GO! I MAY AS WELL END IT ALL! VILMER IS WAITING DOWN IN THAT ALLEY-- AND WHEN I TELL HIM I WOULDN'T OBEY, HE'LL LET ME DIE SLOWLY!

YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN...

"MY STRENGTH WAS FADING FAST AS I STRUGGLED! I KNEW THAT, WITHOUT THE ELIXIR, I WOULD SOON BE DEAD ANYWAY..."

EVERYTHING GOING DARK... THE END OF MY SHORT, SYNTHETIC LIFE!

ROBIN! COME HERE-- QUICKLY!

"UNCONSCIOUS, I DID NOT KNOW WHAT BATMAN'S NEXT MOVE WAS..."

HE'S ONLY UNCONSCIOUS! I'M GOING TO TAKE HIS PLACE-- SO I CAN CAPTURE VILMER AND THE MEN WHO PAID HIM TO GET ME!

LOOK, **BATMAN**... YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT ADAM! THIS CLUE **PROVES** IT!

USING HIS MARVELOUS SKILL FOR DISGUISE, AND THE MAKE-UP KIT FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, BATMAN MADE HIS FACE A REPLICA OF MINE.

NOW WE'LL PUT MY COSTUME ON ADAM, AND I'LL WEAR HIS! WHEN I GET TO VILMER, YOU FOLLOW US IN THE BATMOBILE!

"SO THAT IT WAS BATMAN CARRYING ME UNCONSCIOUS, WHO REALLY MADE THAT DARING GETAWAY..."

GREAT WORK, ADAM! I'LL GIVE YOU MORE ELIXIR AS SOON AS WE GET BACK TO THE LABORATORY!

HURRY! I...ER... FEEL FAINT-- WEAK!

"AND BACK IN THE HIDEOUT..."

YOUR SYNTHETIC STOOGE IS GREAT STUFF, VILMER! HERE'S THE 100 GRAND FOR BATMAN!

AND NOW AT LAST WE CAN UNMASK HIM, BEFORE WE KILL HIM!

BUT-- BUT IT'S ADAM! HOW CAN IT BE... WHO...?

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR BATMAN, THAT'S ME!

AND MAYBE YOU WANT ROBIN TOO!

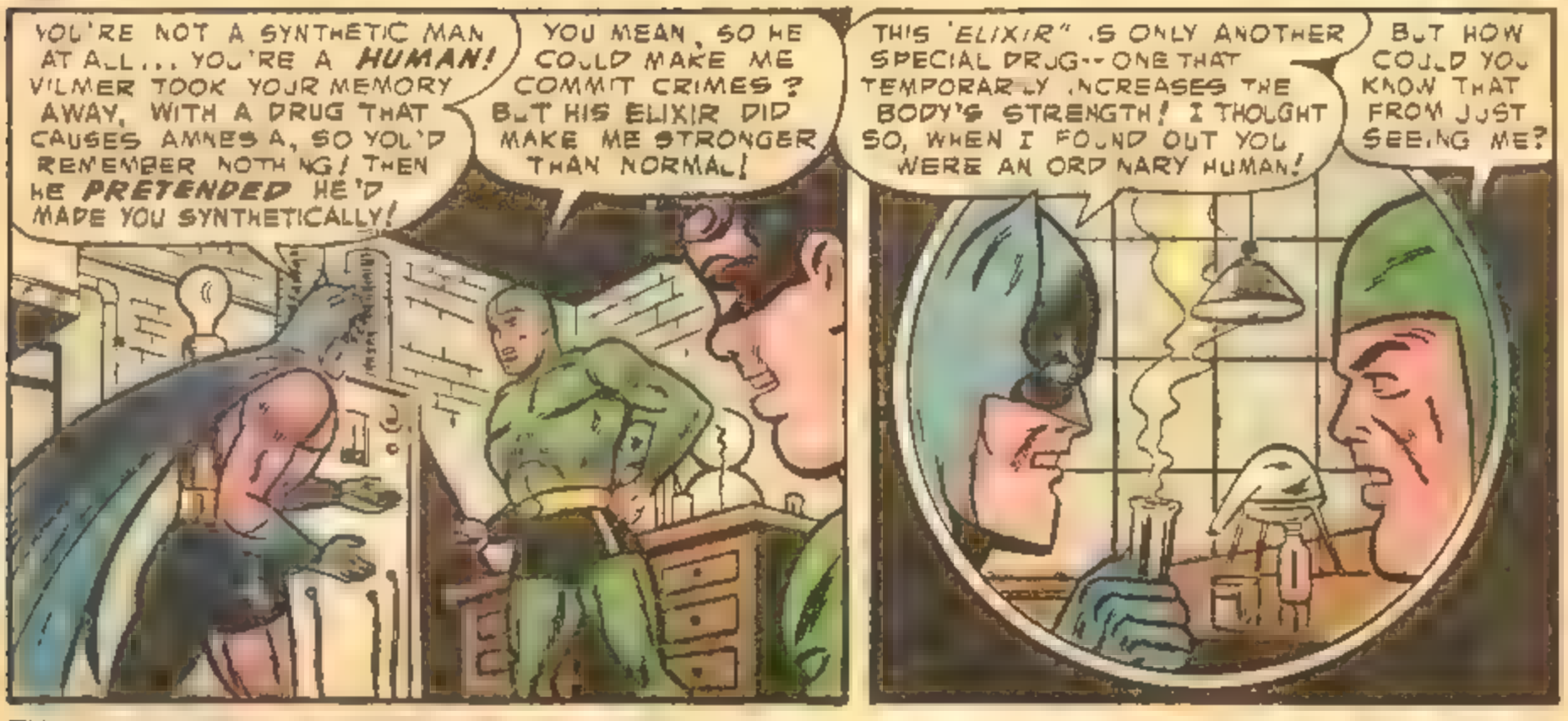
OFFERING $100,000 FOR BATMAN, AND NOTHING FOR ME! I'M INSULTED!

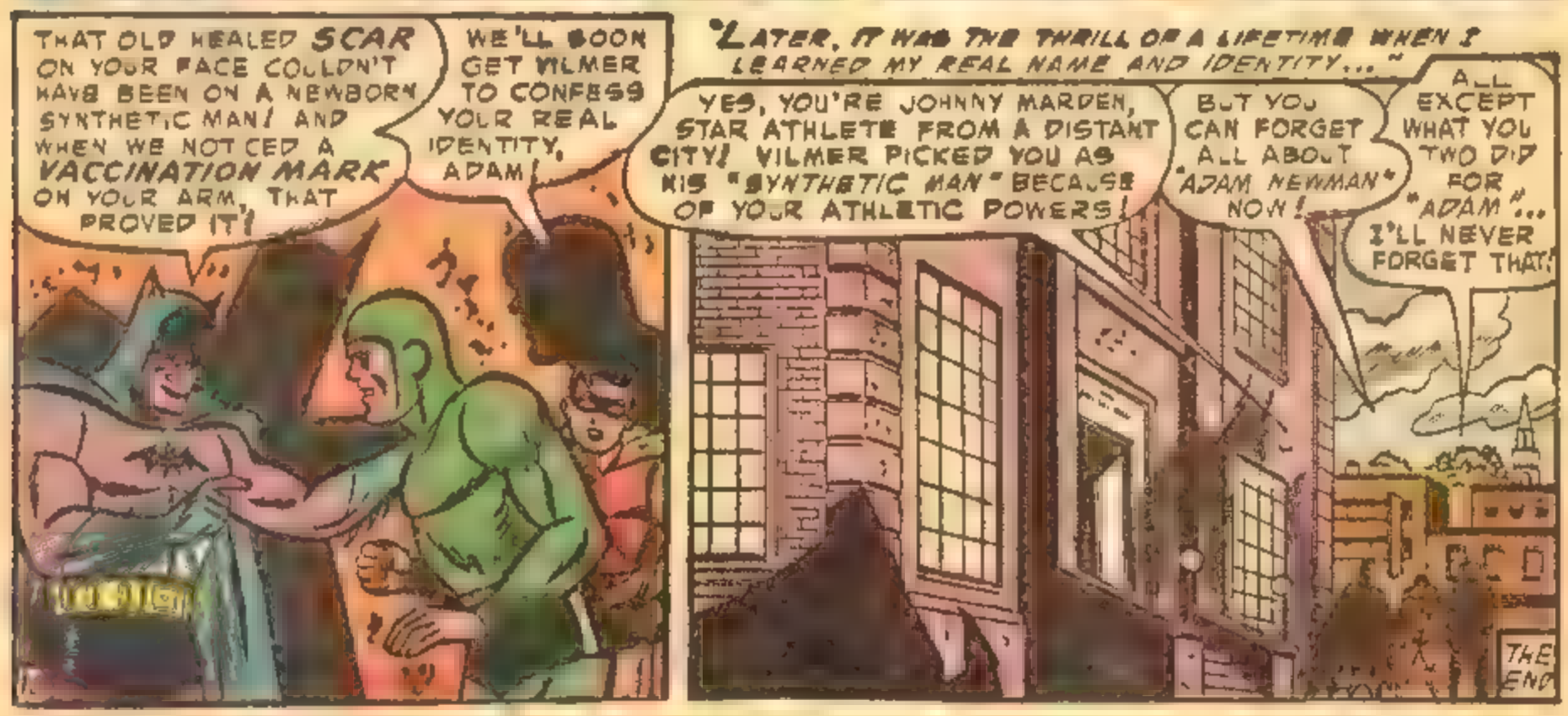
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, VILMER!

"I KNEW NOTHING UNTIL BATMAN, WITH RESTORATIVES, BROUGHT ME BACK TO MY SENSES! HE HAD RE-EXCHANGED COSTUMES WITH ME BY THEN..."

IT'S ME, ADAM-- BATMAN! YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO OBEY VILMER AGAINST YOUR WILL AGAIN! YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE COMMITTING CRIMES-- BUT HE DID, AND HE'LL GO TO PRISON FOR THAT!

BUT WITHOUT HIS ELIXIR, MY SYNTHETIC LIFE WILL END!


YOU'RE NOT A SYNTHETIC MAN AT ALL... YOU'RE A HUMAN! VILMER TOOK YOUR MEMORY AWAY, WITH A DRUG THAT CAUSES AMNESIA, SO YOU'D REMEMBER NOTHING! THEN HE PRETENDED HE'D MADE YOU SYNTHETICALLY!
YOU MEAN, SO HE COULD MAKE ME COMMIT CRIMES? BUT HIS ELIXIR DID MAKE ME STRONGER THAN NORMAL!
THIS 'ELIXIR' IS ONLY ANOTHER SPECIAL DRUG--ONE THAT TEMPORARILY INCREASES THE BODY'S STRENGTH! I THOUGHT SO, WHEN I FOUND OUT YOU WERE AN ORDINARY HUMAN!
BUT HOW COULD YOU KNOW THAT FROM JUST SEEING ME?


THAT OLD HEALED SCAR ON YOUR FACE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ON A NEWBORN SYNTHETIC MAN! AND WHEN WE NOTICED A VACCINATION MARK ON YOUR ARM, THAT PROVED IT!
WE'LL SOON GET VILMER TO CONFESS YOUR REAL IDENTITY, ADAM!
"LATER, IT WAS THE THRILL OF A LIFETIME WHEN I LEARNED MY REAL NAME AND IDENTITY..."
YES, YOU'RE JOHNNY MARDEN, STAR ATHLETE FROM A DISTANT CITY! VILMER PICKED YOU AS HIS "SYNTHETIC MAN" BECAUSE OF YOUR ATHLETIC POWERS!
BUT YOU CAN FORGET ALL ABOUT "ADAM NEWMAN" NOW!
ALL EXCEPT WHAT YOU TWO DID FOR "ADAM"... I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT!
THE END

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

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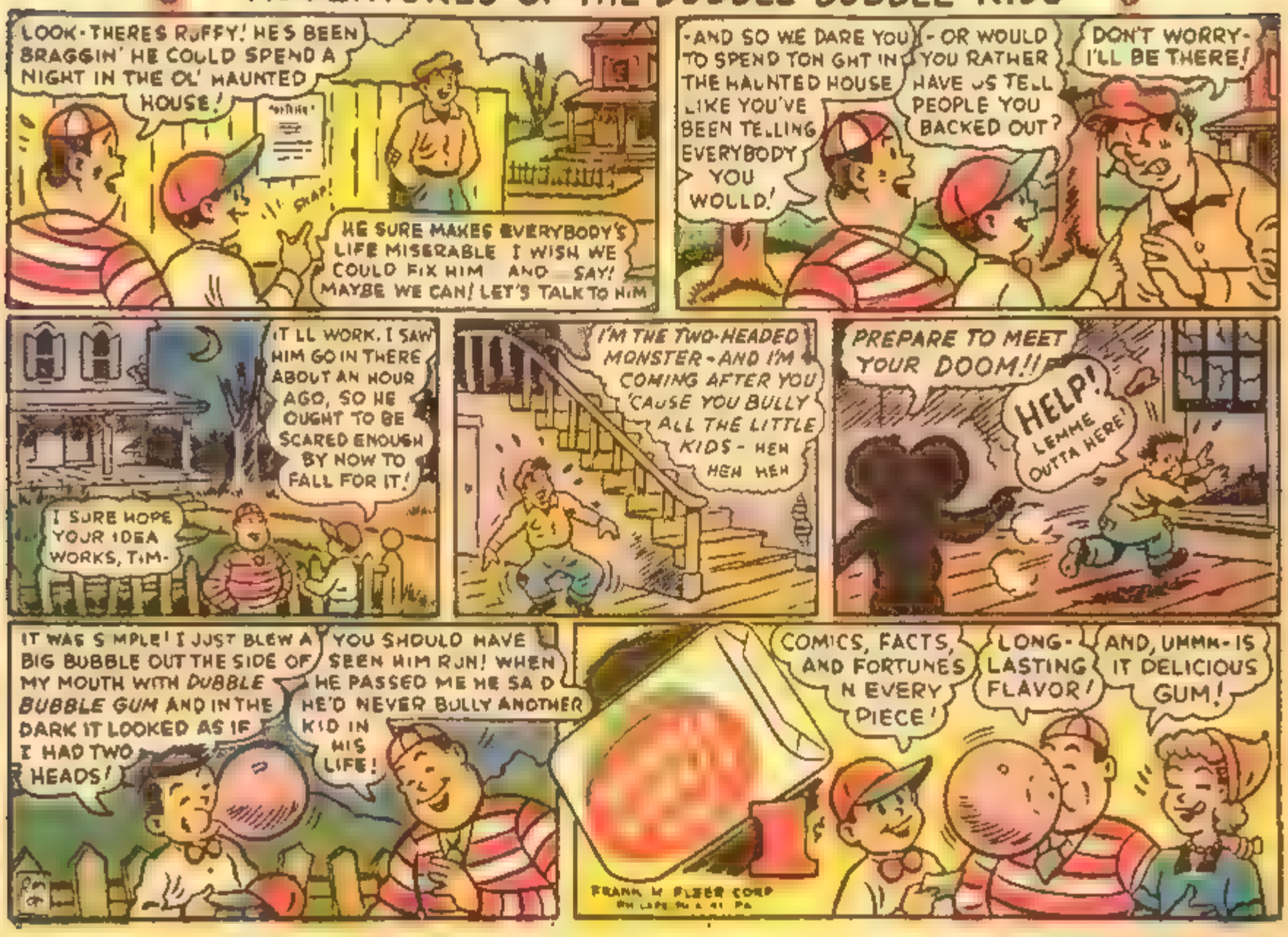
ADVENTURES OF THE DUBBLE BUBBLE KIDS


LOOK - THERE'S RUFFY! HE'S BEEN BRAGGIN' HE COULD SPEND A NIGHT IN THE OL' HAUNTED HOUSE!
SNAP!
HE SURE MAKES EVERYBODY'S LIFE MISERABLE I WISH WE COULD FIX HIM AND — SAY! MAYBE WE CAN! LET'S TALK TO HIM
- AND SO WE DARE YOU TO SPEND TONIGHT IN THE HAUNTED HOUSE LIKE YOU'VE BEEN TELLING EVERYBODY YOU WOULD!
- OR WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE US TELL PEOPLE YOU BACKED OUT?
DON'T WORRY - I'LL BE THERE!
IT'LL WORK. I SAW HIM GO IN THERE ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, SO HE OUGHT TO BE SCARED ENOUGH BY NOW TO FALL FOR IT!
I SURE HOPE YOUR IDEA WORKS, TIM -
I'M THE TWO-HEADED MONSTER - AND I'M COMING AFTER YOU 'CAUSE YOU BULLY ALL THE LITTLE KIDS - HEH HEH HEH
PREPARE TO MEET YOUR DOOM!!
HELP! LEMME OUTTA HERE!
IT WAS SIMPLE! I JUST BLEW A BIG BUBBLE OUT THE SIDE OF MY MOUTH WITH DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM AND IN THE DARK IT LOOKED AS IF I HAD TWO HEADS!
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIM RUN! WHEN HE PASSED ME HE SAID HE'D NEVER BULLY ANOTHER KID IN HIS LIFE!
COMICS, FACTS, AND FORTUNES IN EVERY PIECE!
LONG-LASTING FLAVOR!
AND, UHMM - IS IT DELICIOUS GUM!
FRANK H. FLEER CORP

QUICK QUIZ

WHY WAS IT CONSIDERED UNLUCKY TO BREAK A MIRROR?

BECAUSE THE REFLECTION WAS BELIEVED TO BE PART OF THE SOUL AND TO BREAK THE OBJECT ON WHICH IT WAS REFLECTED WAS TO HARM THE SOUL ITSELF!

HOW MUCH WATER DO THE GREAT OCEAN BASINS OF OUR PLANET HOLD?

APPROXIMATELY 300 MILLION CUBIC MILES OF SALT WATER, OF WHICH 80,000 CUBIC MILES ARE SUCKED UP EACH YEAR BY EVAPORATION!

WHAT IS THE ORIGIN OF THE PHRASE "FITS TO A "T"?

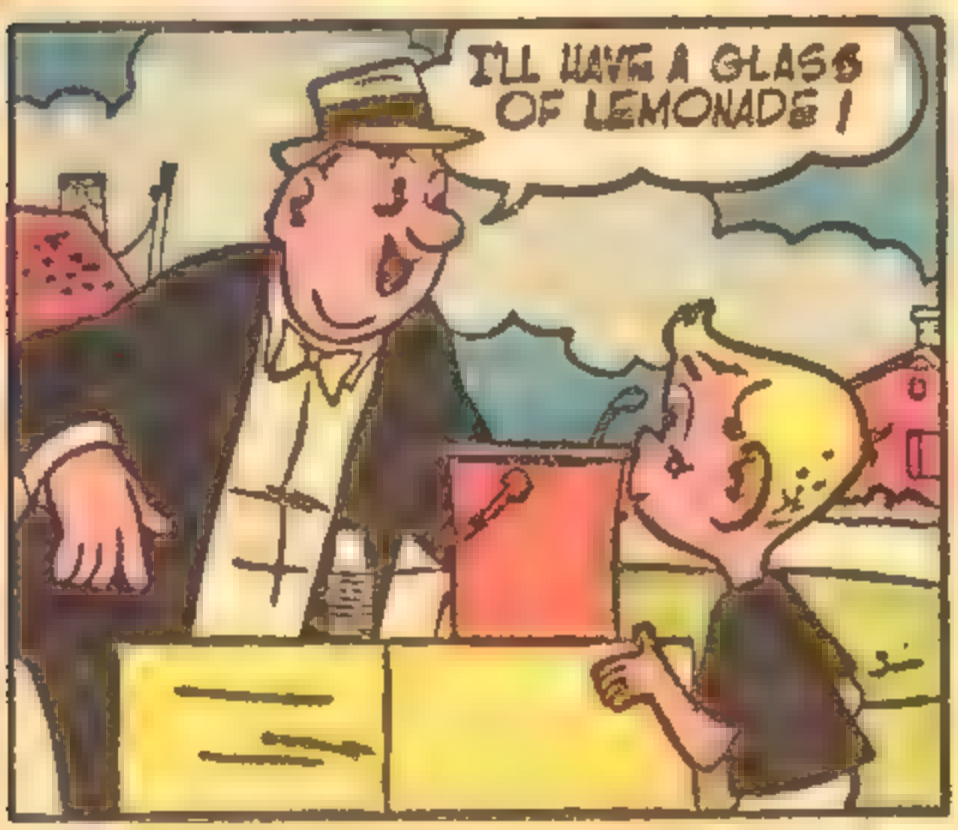
THIS TERM ... MEANING SOMETHING THAT FITS EXACTLY DERIVES FROM THE TEE-SQUARE .... A "T"-LIKE INSTRUMENT USED BY DRAFTSMEN FOR OBTAINING ACCURATE MEASUREMENTS!

WHAT BIRD HAS THE WIDEST WINGSPREAD OF ALL BIRDS?

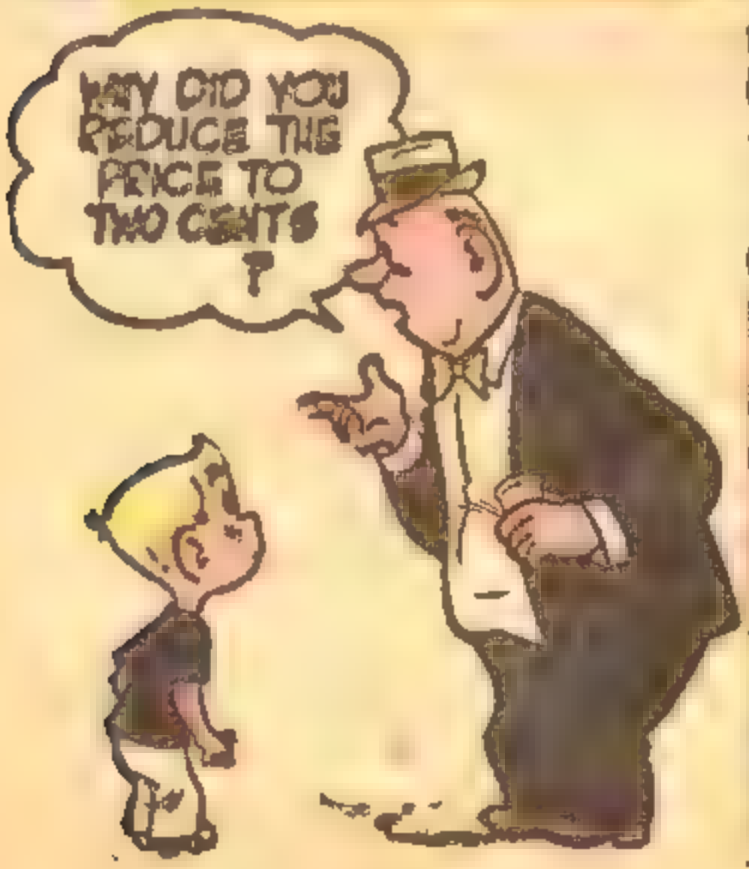
THE WANDERING ALBATROSS, THOUGH WEIGHING ONLY ABOUT 16 POUNDS POSSESSES A WINGSPREAD EXCEEDING 14 FEET!

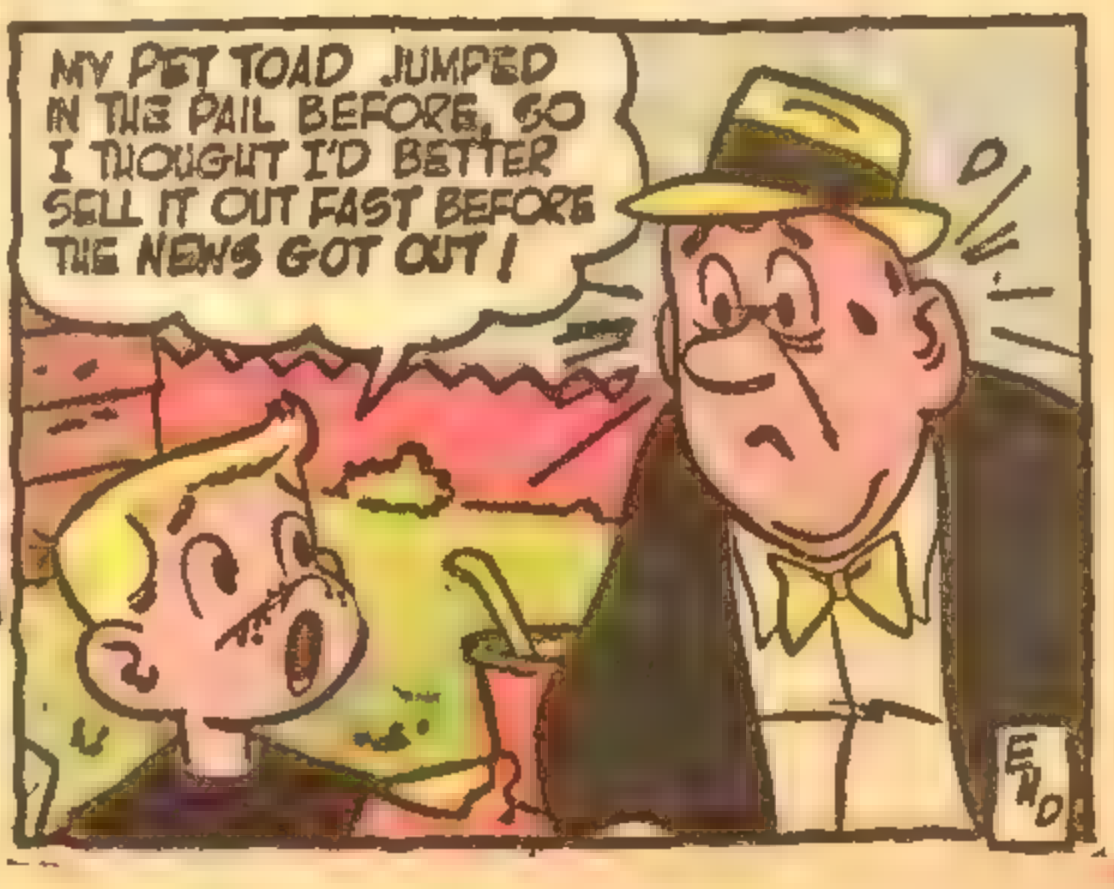
Little PETE

LEMONADE
2¢

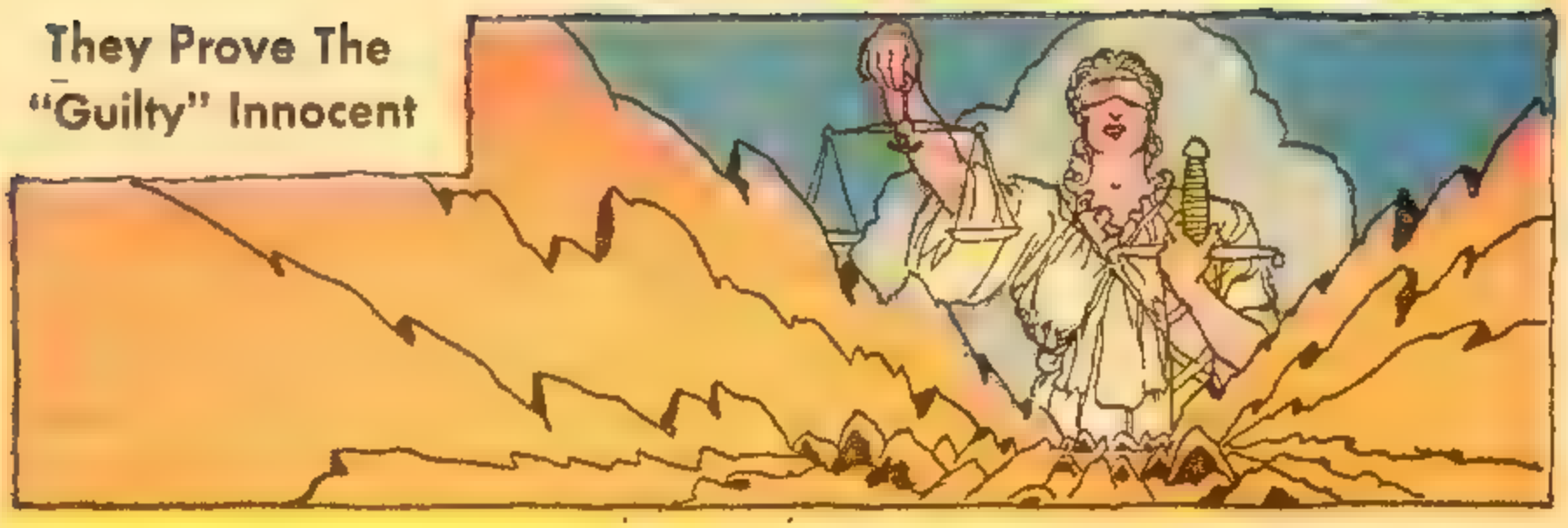

I'LL HAVE A GLASS OF LEMONADE!

HMM-- NOT BAD!


WHY DID YOU REDUCE THE PRICE TO TWO CENTS ?


MY PET TOAD JUMPED IN THE PAIL BEFORE, SO I THOUGHT I'D BETTER SELL IT OUT FAST BEFORE THE NEWS GOT OUT!
END

They Prove The "Guilty" Innocent



This Is the Court of Last Resort, Which Gets Full Cooperation from the Police

WELL over a quarter of a century ago, a man was coming out of a Detroit bank when a black sedan pulled up to the curb, and bullets from a hidden sub-machine gun riddled his body. In the next instant, four occupants leaped from the sedan and began dragging the victim into the car.

At this point, three residents of nearby houses rushed toward the scene of the crime. Meanwhile, the killers changed their minds, and dumped the body into an alley while one of them held off the residents with a gun. Finally, the killers piled into their sedan, and disappeared.

Police immediately set up a dragnet. The victim was known to be a gambler, so suspects were drawn from the known gamblers in town.

Among them was a man named Vance Hardy, a drifter from Missouri. Of all the gamblers questioned, Hardy was the only one who was unable to establish an alibi for himself.

To make matters worse for the drifter, a witness came forward to testify that Hardy resembled one of the killers in the bank alley. Hardy was brought to trial, found guilty, and given a life sentence.

In prison, Hardy continued to protest his innocence. Then, about 25 years after his sentence, the prison physician became impressed by Hardy's story, picked up a phone in the warden's office and called Dr. LeMoyne Snyder, a leading expert on the medical aspects of crime.

Dr. Snyder packed a bag and left at once for the automobile manufacturing center. There, he questioned Hardy carefully and, satisfied that there were some grounds for doubt regarding the prisoner's guilt, he wired for help.

In a matter of days, a full investigating team moved into Detroit. Hardy was given a five-hour lie-detector test, which indicated that he was innocent. Now the investigating team went into high gear.

One of their number found a witness who had deliberately kept evidence from the police.

"Why didn't you offer your evidence to the police?" he was asked.

The witness mumbled in answer that he had been afraid of the gang responsible for the killing. His evidence: that Vance Hardy was *not* one of the killers. Yes, he was positive!

Another member of the investigating team tracked down the eye-witness who had put the finger on Hardy during the trial. Under questioning, he broke down. His statement: "For the past five years, I've been sure that Hardy was *not* one of those four murderers!"

The investigating team gathered its evidence together, and placed its full findings before the magistrate of a Detroit courtroom. Once again Vancy Hardy stood, head bowed, before the bench, but this time to hear himself declared a free man. He was later reimbursed by an apologetic state government.

What you have just read is a true account of "The Court of Last Resort" in action. An unofficial body, this investigating team operates with the whole-hearted blessings of the nation's police forces, and goes into action after all legal appeals have failed.

The Court of Last Resort is composed of men nationally prominent in the field of crime: Erle Stanley Gardner, the country's best-selling crime writer; Raymond Schindler, world-famous detective; Alex Gregory, lie-detector expert; Henry Steeger, noted publisher; Tom Smith, a former prison warden; Bob Rhay, a field investigator; and Dr. Snyder, who figured so brilliantly in the Vance Hardy case.

Do the police resent the interference of the Court? Not at all! As one official put it:

"We welcome the investigation of the Court. After all, if, through circumstantial evidence or other means, a man has been wrongly found guilty, we want to know about it, too! Sometimes, a man, for some reason best known to psychiatrists, confesses guilt to a crime he never committed.

"We police have one duty: to arrest that man. Later, the man is tried by a jury of his peers. They decide on the basis of the evidence, and they listen to the man accuse himself. What can they do? They find him guilty, and we throw him in jail.

"At this stage of the case, we must bow out of the case. New cases come up every day. We can't keep on reviewing cases that are officially closed, can we?

"But, suppose that man was lying, perhaps to protect someone else? That's where this Court of Last Resort comes in. For them, a case is never closed, even after a man has been found guilty. Of course, they don't start an investigation unless they have pretty strong doubts about a man's guilt. As far as we're concerned, we're glad to have their cooperation."

The above statement is more or less the general feeling held by police officials toward the Court. What has been the record of the Court since it went into business in 1948?

Thousands of cases have been referred to it for aid. Of these, about 1,000 cases have been considered and rejected. The Court has investigated and proved the innocence of 12 men adjudged guilty by juries. At present, more than 500 others are being processed.

Not only are police forces aiding the Court in every possible way, but other law and legal agencies are joining the ranks of Court enthusiasts. Not long ago, almost a dozen former FBI men volunteered their services free, and the American Bar Association has already set up a special committee to work with the Court.

The Court doesn't stop operating for a condemned man it has proven innocent. Knowing that the stigma of prison may make it difficult for the freed man to find a job and win back the respect of his former friends, the Court continues to work in behalf of its "clients."

Vance Hardy, for instance, was given a job in a hospital as a result of Dr. Snyder's efforts. Raymond Schindler, out of his own pocket, supported the family of a convict imprisoned for a murder the Court was convinced he hadn't committed. Following the release of this man, he was given a job as cowhand on Erle Stanley Gardner's ranch.

It is little wonder that the Court of Last Resort has won the admiration and support of the public.

—Jack E. Miller

BATMAN and ROBIN

EVER FIGURE OUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF **BATMAN** EVER **FELL IN LOVE?** OF COURSE, UP UNTIL NOW, IT NEVER HAPPENED--AND VICKI VALE, GAL PHOTOGRAPHER AND **BATMAN'S** MOST ARDENT ADMIRER, WAS READY TO BET IT NEVER WOULD. BUT VICKI DIDN'T COUNT ON THE GORGEOUS **MAGDA**--INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY WHO SUDDENLY DROPS INTO **BATMAN'S** LIFE AND STARTS THE WHOLE TOWN BUZZING! HERE'S THE BIG SURPRISE STORY OF THE YEAR, WHEN...

"BATMAN FALLS IN LOVE!"

BATMAN! WILL YOU STOP MOONING OVER THAT MAGDA! THERE'S A CRIME WAVE ON!

FABULOUS

Magda

The TOAST of TWO CONTINENTS

by BOB KANE

ONE MORNING IN THE OFFICE OF "VUE", THE FAMED PICTURE MAGAZINE...

WHO GETS ALL THE LUSH ASSIGNMENTS AROUND HERE? WHY--VICKI VALE HERSELF! IMAGINE.. A PICTURE INTERVIEW WITH MAGDA LUVESCU!

MAGDA--THE INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY! SHE'S BECOME AN INSTITUTION! BOY--COULD I GO FOR HER!

MEN! YOU'RE ALL THE SAME! THROWING YOURSELVES AT THE FEET OF THAT--THAT MUSH-MOUTH! YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED!

CAN'T HELP IT, VICKI... THAT GIRL'S GOT IT! SHE COULD HAVE HER PICK OF ANY MAN IN THE WORLD!

LATER, AT THE GOTHAM CITY COLISEUM...

AHHH--IT IS GOOD TO BE BACK IN AMERICA! YOU ALL ARE SO NICE TO ME HERE!

NMPH... ALWAYS TURNING ON THE CHARM! WHAT'S SO IRRESISTIBLE ABOUT HER, ANYWAY?

JUST THEN...

BATMAN! DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE SUCCUMBED TO MAGDA'S FATAL CHARMS, TOO!

NO, VICKI! ROBIN AND I ARE HERE TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY NEW GADGETS WE CAN USE!

GALA OPEN... ELECTRICAL UTIL... MAGDA LUV... ESCU

...G TO-DAY ...IES EXHIBIT GUEST OF HONOR

MAGDA LUVESCU

SIGH! I KNOW WHY I'M SO IN LOVE WITH HIM! HE'S THE ONE MAN MAGDA WILL NEVER GET HER HOOKS INTO, THAT'S FOR SURE! GOLLY--IF I COULD ONLY MAKE HIM GO FOR ME!

AND INSIDE THE EXHIBIT, AS VICKI BEGINS HER INTERVIEW...

AND IS IT TRUE THAT A FAMOUS POLITICAL PRISONER RECENTLY ESCAPED DEVIL'S ISLAND TO RETURN TO YOU?

AH, YES.. POOR JACQUES! HE WAS SO JEALOUS! BUT I'M AFRAID HE DIED IN THE JUNGLE... HE NEVER SHOWED UP!

I NEVER MET SUCH CONCEIT!

HAVE YOU ANY ROMANTIC ATTACHMENTS AT THE PRESENT TIME, MISS LUVESCU?

OH, NO! I PLAY-- HOW YOU SAY--THE FIELD! I CANNOT BE SERIOUS ABOUT MEN!

MEANWHILE...

HMM... SOME INTERESTING GADGETS HERE, IF THE MEN CAN ONLY TAKE THEIR EYES OFF MAGDA FOR AWHILE!

BATMAN, LOOK! SOMEONE'S LOOSENING THE CHANDELIER! IT'LL FALL RIGHT ON THE PAIR!

THAT CROWD WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO CLEAR AWAY IN TIME! THEY'D PANIC AND STUMBLE OVER EACH OTHER! WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT CHANDELIER-- BUT HOW--?

ONE CHANCE, ROBIN, THE POP-UP TOASTER MODEL! ITS GIANT SPRINGS MAY DO THE TRICK!

A MOMENT LATER...

I'VE DEPRESSED THE TOAST TRAY, ROBIN... NOW TOUCH OFF THE MANUAL RELEASE!

RIGHT! HERE GOES...

AND AS THE TOAST TRAY POPS BACK INTO POSITION...

HE MADE IT!

POP!

LOOK! BATMAN'S CHASING SOMEONE UP THERE! WHAT'S GOING ON?

CONFOUND YOU, BATMAN! IN ANOTHER MINUTE, I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN AWAY WITH IT!

THAT MINUTE IS GOING TO COST YOU 20 YEARS, MY FRIEND!

LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

HE WAS AFTER MAGDA, ALL RIGHT-- SPILLED EVERYTHING! SEEMS HE WAS PART OF A SMUGGLING RING THAT TRIED TO ENLIST MAGDA! SHE TIPPED THE PARIS POLICE -- AND THE FRENCH GANG WAS NABBED!

NOW THE GOTHAM CITY BOYS WANT REVENGE! TROUBLE IS, THERE ARE FOUR OF THEM STILL AT LARGE!

AFTERWARD, IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

OH--UH-- **BATMAN!** COME IN-- UH-- COME IN! YOU KNOW MISS LUVESCU, OF COURSE! TERRIBLE BUSINESS... I JUST HAD A FULL REPORT! WE'VE GOT TO ACT!

WE KNOW WE CAN EXPECT FURTHER ATTEMPTS ON MAGDA'S--UH-- MISS LUVESCU'S LIFE! SHE DEMANDS--AND SHE DESERVES-- THE UTMOST IN POLICE PROTECTION!

AND I WILL SETTLE FOR NO ONE BUT THE BEST, **BATMAN!** THAT'S WHY I ASKED MY FRIEND THE COMMISSIONER TO ASSIGN YOU AS MY BODYGUARD!

THUS, AWHILE LATER, OUTSIDE THE HEADQUARTERS PRESS ROOM...

IS IT TRUE WHAT THOSE SMART-ALEC REPORTERS IN THERE ARE SPREADING-- THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE MAGDA'S **PERSONAL BODYGUARD?**

THAT'S MY ASSIGNMENT, VICK!-- AND AN IMPORTANT ONE, TOO!

THEN LISTEN, YOU HANDSOME HEEL... IF YOU EVER BREAK DOWN AND START THINKING ABOUT ROMANCE-- IT'D BETTER BE WITH ME, AND NOT MAGDA! OR SO HELP ME!

EASY, VICKI! THIS IS STRICTLY A BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT! YOU'LL SEE..

NEXT DAY, BACKSTAGE AT TELEVISION STUDIO WGTV...

I DON'T GET IT, **BATMAN!** IF YOU HAVE A TIP THAT MAGDA'S ASSASSINS WILL BE IN THE STUDIO AUDIENCE, WHY NOT CANCEL HER APPEARANCE?

BECAUSE I WANT TO NAB THOSE KILLERS! DON'T WORRY, **ROBIN**-- TONIGHT THE PANEL WILL BE SHIELDED BY A THICK PANE OF **BULLET-PROOF GLASS!**

TONIGHT'S GUEST PANELIST- MAGDA LUVESCU

BUT MOMENTS BEFORE THE SHOW GOES ON

BATMAN! THAT BULLET-PROOF GLASS IS TOO HEAVY FOR TS FRAME! WE CAN'T GET IT TO STAND UP! YOU WANT TO DRAW MAGDA FROM THE SHOW?

NO--NO... I'LL JUST THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE! MEANWHILE ROBIN--GET DOWN INTO THE AUDIENCE! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS!

AND AS THE PROGRAM BEGINS...

THE PANEL'S COMPLETELY UNPROTECTED! I'VE NEVER KNOWN BATMAN TO EXPOSE SO MANY PEOPLE TO DANGER BEFORE! I'VE GOT TO FIND THOSE KILLERS BEFORE THEY START SHOOTING!

SUDDENLY...

DEATH TO MAGDA LUVESCU! HA-HA!

TOO LATE! BY THE TIME WE GRAB THEM, THEY'LL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THEIR GORY MISSION!

RAT-TAT-TATTAT

BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT...

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! WE WERE SHOOTING AT A MIRROR, WHICH REFLECTED THE IMAGES OF THE PANELISTS, WHO WERE OFF-STAGE!

COURTESY OF THE SPONSOR! WHAT BETTER WAY FOR THE COMBS MIRROR COMPANY TO DISPLAY ITS PRODUCT? GRAB THEM, ROBIN!

AND AFTER A SHORT TUSSLE...

YOU HAVE JUST SEEN HISTORY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--BATMAN AND ROBIN, IN REAL-LIFE ACTION! AND NOW THAT THE SHOOTING'S OVER, HERE ARE OUR PANELISTS IN THE FLESH TO RESUME THE SHOW!

HOORAY!

BUT THE BIG ATTRACTION IS YET TO COME, BACKSTAGE, AFTER THE SHOW...

DARLING BATMAN--YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE! I MUST KISS YOU! MMMMMM!

WOW! THAT GAL REALLY MEANS IT! HOLD THAT POSE, FOLKS--WE'LL WANT ALL THE SHOTS OF THIS WE CAN TAKE!

NEXT MORNING, AS VICKI VALE GULPS DOWN HER BREAKFAST...

THE SHE-WOLF! LOOK AT HER CRAWLING ALL OVER **BATMAN!** WELL--AT LEAST IT'S OVER! HER LIFE IS NO LONGER IN DANGER! **BATMAN** DOESN'T HAVE TO HANG AROUND HER ANY MORE!

Gotham Gazette

BATMAN TRAPS MAGDA'S KILLERS

MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** REVERT TO THEIR EVERYDAY ROLES AS MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

BOY--WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY! HOW ABOUT SOME HORSEBACK RIDING, BRUCE?

ER--BETTER GO YOURSELF, DICK... I HAVE--ER--A DATE AS **BATMAN**, WITH--ER--MAGDA!

MAGDA??? BUT I THOUGHT WE'D FINISHED WITH HER! COMMISSIONER GORDON RELIEVED YOU OF YOUR BODYGUARD ASSIGNMENT!

I KNOW... BUT THERE'S NO REASON WHY--ER--MAGDA AND I CAN'T BE FRIENDS, IS THERE?

AND DOWN IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

SO LONG, DICK... OF COURSE--IF ANYTHING COMES UP, I'LL ANSWER THE **BAT-SIGNAL!** BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE, YOU KNOW!

I'D NEVER BELIEVE IT IF I HADN'T SEEN IT! **BATMAN**--ACTING LIKE A SOPHOMORE IN LOVE!

IF YOU THINK **THAT'S** BAD, DICK, WHAT ABOUT THESE OTHER STARTLING OCCURRENCES IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW?...

THAT WASN'T A FIRE LAST NIGHT AT THE LILAC CLUB! JUST **BATMAN** AND MAGDA--THE BIGGEST SURPRISE CUPID EVER SPRUNG ON GOTHAM CITY!

GOTHAM GOSSIP by BUD

THE **BATMAN**-MAGDA ROMANCE HAS REACHED THE POPCORN-AND-TUNNEL-OF-LOVE STAGE!

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST! **BATMAN** IS ORDERING A NEW UNIFORM--FOR FULL DRESS EVENING WEAR! ALL FOR MAGDA! (WHO ELSE?)

YES, THERE SEEMS NO HALT TO THIS SUDDEN ROMANCE...

BOY-- THE BATMOBILE! THAT'S ONE CAR I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE HERE!

WELL, YOU CAN EXPECT ANYTHING FROM NOW ON, PAL! BATMAN HAS FALLEN-- HOOK, LINE AND SINKER!

DRIVE-IN

FINALLY, COMES THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF ALL...

YOU'RE CHANGING THE NAME OF THE BAT-PLANE TO MAGDA?

HEY BATMAN-- ARE YOU ELOPING TONIGHT?

DON'T RUSH ME, BOYS-- DON'T RUSH ME!

Magda

MEANWHILE, BATMAN'S ROMANCE HAS HAD AN ERUPTIVE EFFECT ON CERTAIN OF THE CITIZENRY...

MR. MAYOR-- SPEAKING FOR THE CITIZENS' LEAGUE I DEMAND THAT BATMAN BE DROPPED FROM HIS PRESENT JOB! HE CAN NO LONGER BE CONSIDERED AN EFFECTIVE FORCE AGAINST CRIME!

BUT IN THE GOTHAM CITY UNDERWORLD, THE REACTION IS MUCH MORE PUZZLING...

ALL RIGHT-- PASS THE WORD AROUND! BIG CHARLEY VANCE SAYS TO LAY OFF BATMAN! EVERYBODY KEEP HIS NOSE CLEAN... NO CRIME FOR THE TIME BEING!

ARE YOU CRAZY, BOSS? THIS IS THE TIME TO MOVE IN-- WHEN BATMAN'S ALL TANGLED UP WITH THAT DAME!

LOOK, STUPID!... WE LAY OFF, SEE? WE DON'T INTERRUPT BATMAN! WE LET THIS ROMANCE BLOSSOM! ONCE THIS DAME HOOKS BATMAN WITH A WEDDING RING, WE'RE IN! SHE'LL TAKE HIM RIGHT OUT OF CIRCULATION!

BUT THE ROMANCE'S MOST DEVASTATING EFFECT CENTERS ON A BEWILDERED YOUNG BOY AND A HEARTBROKEN GIRL...

IT JUST-- IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE!

BUT IT IS, VICKI! BATMAN HARDLY HAS ANY TIME FOR ME ANYMORE! I NEVER THOUGHT ANYONE COULD COME BETWEEN US... I SEE NOW THAT I WAS DEAD WRONG!

THAT EVENING, AS VICKI RETURNS TO HER OFFICE...

I CAN FORGIVE **BATMAN** FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO ME -- I HAD NO CLAIM ON HIM! BUT I CAN NEVER FORGIVE WHAT HE'S DONE TO THAT POOR KID!

HEY -- DIDJA HEAR THE RADIO? MAGDA CALLED OFF THAT BIG PARTY AT HER APARTMENT TONIGHT! SICK OF CROWDS... WANTS TO SPEND A COZY EVENING ALONE WITH **BATMAN!**

COZY EVENING, EH? A TETE-A-TETE! THIS IS IT! FIVE GETS YOU EIGHT **BATMAN** POPS THE QUESTION TONIGHT!

OH, YEAH? NOT IF I CAN KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO THAT LUNKHEAD **BATMAN**, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

POOR VICKI... IF ONLY SHE KNEW THE **REAL** REASON FOR **BATMAN'S** PRIVATE MEETING WITH MAGDA!

BATMAN, IT WORKED! IT'S JACQUES -- JACQUES TERLAY! HE'S HERE IN GOTHAM CITY!

GOOD! TELL HIM TO STOP BOTHERING YOU! TELL HIM YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ME -- THAT I'M HERE WITH YOU! TELL HIM YOU NEVER WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN! GET HIM GOOD AND MAD!

AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

WHERE IS HE? I KEEL HIM! I KEEL ANY MAN WHO TRIES TO STEAL MY MAGDA!...

I THOUGHT YOU'D TRY THE FIRE ESCAPE! YOU'VE BEEN USING BACK ALLEYS EVER SINCE YOU STOLE THAT INTERNATIONAL GOLD BULLION WHICH WAS NEVER RECOVERED. MAYBE **DEVIL'S ISLAND** COULDN'T HOLD YOU -- BUT **WE** WILL!

YES, MY FRIEND, WE HAD AN IDEA YOU WEREN'T DEAD! THIS ROMANCE WAS JUST A COOKED-UP AFFAIR TO BRING YOU OUT OF HIDING!

I'M SORRY, JACQUES, BUT THREE NATIONS OF THE WORLD WANT YOU BADLY! YOU ARE AN IMPORTANT PRISONER... IT WAS MY DUTY TO HELP **BATMAN!**

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, AN UNWELCOME INTRUSION...

I SAID I WAS GOING TO KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO YOUR HEAD -- AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M DOING!

OW

YOU FOOL! NOW SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE!

ALORS! THIS IS MY CHANCE!

DON'T MOVE! YOU THREE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW I'M IN GOTHAM CITY! WHEN I'VE **KILLED** YOU, NO ONE WILL KNOW! **BATMAN**, TIE THE WOMEN UP--THEN I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

SOON AFTER...

AFTER I'VE MADE AN IMPORTANT PHONE CALL FROM THE NEXT ROOM, I'LL SHUT THE WINDOWS AND TURN ON THE KITCHEN GAS! HA-HA... BULLETS CAN BE TRACED--BUT NOT GAS! HAVE YOU ANY LAST REQUESTS, **BATMAN**-- BEFORE YOU DIE?

ONLY ONE... I'D--ER--LIKE SOME MUSIC! WOULD YOU TURN ON THE RADIO?

MUSIC? OF COURSE! TO MAKE THE GAS MORE SOOTHING... HA-HA! GOOD-BYE, MAGDA... THIS IS WHAT YOU GET FOR TURNING ON ME!

LATER...

HE'S GONE-- AND I CAN SMELL THE GAS! VICKI'S CAMERA IS MY ONLY CHANCE--IF I CAN JUST REACH IT!

DEFT FINGERS FINALLY REACH THE CAMERA, UNSCREW THE LENS, AND...

SMASH

THEN, WITH ONE OF THE JAGGED EDGES...

GAS GETTING STRONGER! HAVE TO HURRY... SAW THROUGH MY BONDS!

ABRUPTLY, THE ROPES SNAP--AND WITHIN MINUTES, **BATMAN** HAS THE OTHERS FREED...

HURRY... WE NEED FRESH AIR! NO TIME TO WASTE... HAVE TO STOP JACQUES AT **FARRADAY AIRPORT!**

COUGH!

COUGH!

AND WHEN THE THREE FINALLY RECOVER OUTSIDE...

WE'LL HANDLE THINGS HERE, BATMAN-- BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW JACQUES IS GOING TO FARRADAY AIRPORT?

THAT PHONE CALL HE MADE FROM ANOTHER ROOM... THAT'S WHY I HAD HIM TURN ON THE RADIO! OFTEN, PHONE DIAL IMPULSES CLICK ON A RADIO AS STATIC! HIS DID! BY COUNTING THE IMPULSES, I RECOGNIZED HIS NUMBER AS THAT OF THE AIRPORT!

SURE ENOUGH, WHEN BATMAN REACHES THE AIRPORT.

THAT MAN YOU DESCRIBE HAS HIS OWN PLANE HERE, BATMAN! HE'S GETTING READY TO TAKE OFF NOW!

HE'S SPOTTED ME! HE'S TAXIING OUT TO THE RUNWAY! I'VE GOT TO HEAD HIM OFF!

FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, THE LAWMAN WHIPS OUT ONE OF HIS FAMED WEAPONS, AND...

GOOD OLD BATARANG! IT SMASHED HIS PROP TO PIECES! NOW TO DRAG HIM OUT OF THERE!

NEXT MOMENT...

WE MEET AGAIN, MONSIEUR! ONLY THIS TIME THERE'LL BE NO SILLY GIRL TO MIX THINGS UP!

PRESENTLY, WHEN ROBIN JOINS BATMAN AT THE AIRPORT...

SO YOUR ROMANCE WAS STRICTLY A COOKED-UP AFFAIR! BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU AT LEAST LET ME IN ON IT?

THAT ROMANCE HAD TO LOOK REAL FROM EVERY ANGLE! I FIGURED IF YOU BELIEVED IT, YOU'D CONVINCE A LOT OF OTHERS! IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO LURE JACQUES OUT OF HIDING!

AND NEXT DAY, AS VICKI VALE CAUSES A MILD HUBBUB IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM CITY...

THAT VICKI'S SOME GIRL! IF ANYBODY ASKS HER ABOUT THAT SIGN, SHE TELLS THEM THE WHOLE STORY OF HOW SHE ALMOST RUINED YOU BY NOT TRUSTING YOU!

YES--BUT SHE ALSO TELLS THEM SHE WON'T STOP TRYING TILL SHE'S MRS. BATMAN! SO-- WATCH OUT, BATMAN... ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND WAR!

I'M A SAP!

THE END

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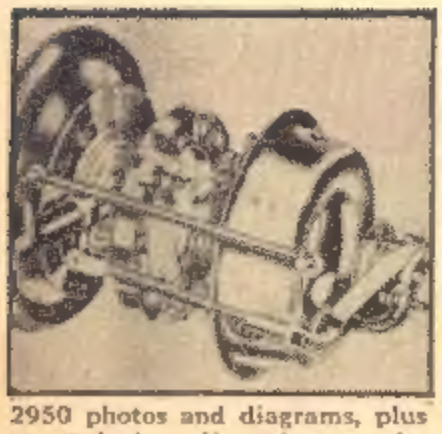

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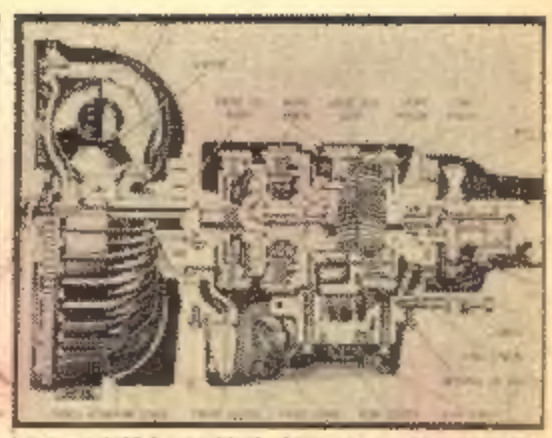

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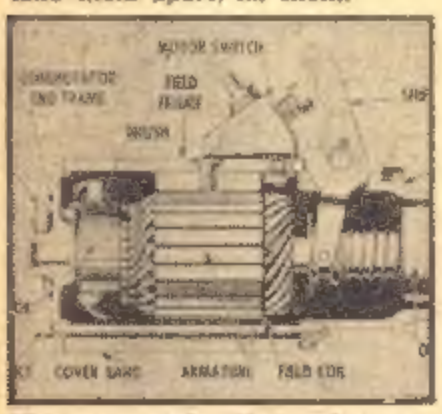

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